3 Since writing the foregoing, I met with one of the followers of those Universal Reformers, and am sorry to find from him, that the disease is more deeply radicated than I had expected — and that it requires strong antidotes and counteraction.

3. It is thought best here, ~~that~~ and it may do more good, if my appearance among that body be not anticipated — so that no person shall know of my intention until I [illegible] make my bow to the Chairman!

Rev. Amos A. Phelps.
32 Washington Street.
Boston.
Mass.

Thom. Henson

From the preceding remarks, you will understand the matter — except one thing, that I cannot remain in Boston over Friday; and consequently, it only is to be considered, whether the proposition of our Friends here is worth "the whistle". I deeply regret those vexatious and antichristian movements — and although I have no hope of stopping the ringleaders, yet I think a hindrance may be contrived for others. I am convinced that of all the persons whose names are signed to the call there is not one who accurately understands the subjects proposed for investigation — and I think, as it is probable, if it be known when the meeting commences, that a resolute, inflexible opposition to all their vagaries will be made, for I would speak upon every question with the changeless tone of old Cato's "Delenda est Carthago"; so I would reiterate, that the Church is the light of the world, the Ministry the salt of the earth, and as I told Garrison and Rogers, we have no more right to question the authority of the Sabbatical Institution, than we have the ordinance of marriage, or to inquire why we should masticate with our mouths, instead of propelling food and drink into our ears ~~&~~ and noses.

If the suggestion of our Friends here meets your concurrence, write me as speedily as convenient, that I may have time to search out some Hebrew and Greek, with which to **bother** "the Universal DEformers!" —

As I suppose I have been sufficiently explicit — I only add my fraternal regards and anxiety, that your cause may prosper — and with Christian love to all at your house I suppose in Hayward Place

I am affectionately and Faithfully —

Your Friend and Fellow Soldier — George Bourne.

is not designed you will understand, that it shall be disclosed at all who sent the invitation but it has been desired, that I should appear as on the part or by the request of Ladies — and that no exception may be taken by the Cavillers, and that it may appear that I am a special visitor — it is thought best that for the sake of influence — all due form should be observed.

If therefore the Ladies for instance who have separated from the selfstyled "friends of Universal Reform" approve — some person *in their name*, the Agent of the Abolitionist if you please, or either of the Ladies — *for the Letter would not be shown, but merely the fact of my being invited publicly stated* — and to have no room for exception, that they shall also pay the ten ~~some~~ or twelve dollars for my passage money to Boston and back — so that I might publicly proclaim my total disinterestedness and anxiety to serve the friends who invited me, as well as have the better opportunity to defend the Christian women when the *Ministry* was brought up, to maintain the silence of women in the Churches on behalf of those who knowing my sentiments desired my attendance. [illegible] I should want the aid of an amanuensis who can hear sharply, just to take down all the *foolery* that may be uttered, as my only aim would be ~~to~~ with the besom of the Gospel, to sweep away the rubbish of ignorance and impiety.

Confidential. #

Rev. George Bourne
New York.
20 October, 1840.

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My dear Sir—

Not received till after the Convention

The proposed assemblage of your "Universal Reformers" on the third Tuesday, I believe, of November, has excited some solicitude; and a wish has been expressed that those Wiseacres shall be exposed as they merit. They "most cordially invite all who have any thing to say on those vital topics, the Church, Ministry, and Sabbath, to utter the word that is given them; and especially those who hold the prevalent opinions to give their reasons for the faith that is in them".

Some of our Brethren and Friends have urged me to attend that meeting—they think that I might give those blunderheads some "notions"—and that they would take from me as a sort of "Incendiary Fanatic" some plain or even pungent truths which would not be so acceptable from some others—and besides, that my acquaintance with those topics would enable one collaterally to benefit Listeners, if I could not reform the would be Reformers of all except themselves.

But our Brethren also suggested, that it would not serve the cause of Truth for me to appear as a Volunteer—that a request from your quarter to that effect would be advisable to give weight to the matter. It